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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. National Patent Application of:

Tomoyuki SATO and Takeshi KIYAMA

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as shown on the following pages.

Amendments to the **Specification** beginning on Page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the **Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on Page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on Page 7 of this paper.